

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION IX

75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, CA 94105

April 16, 2008

James Goldstene, Executive Officer California Air Resources Board 1001 I Street Sacramento, CA 95812

RE: Adequacy Status of Imperial 8-hour Ozone Early Progress Plan Motor Vehicle Emissions Budgets

Dear Mr. Goldstene:

We have found adequate for transportation conformity purposes the motor vehicle emissions budgets (MVEBs) in the *Imperial County 8-hour Ozone Early Progress Plan* (February 2008). As a result of our adequacy findings, the Southern California Association of Governments and the U.S. Department of Transportation must use these budgets in future conformity analyses once the finding becomes effective.

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) submitted the draft *Imperial County* 8-hour Ozone Early Progress Plan to EPA for parallel processing on February 6, 2008 as a revision to the California State Implementation Plan (SIP). The plan identifies regional MVEBs for the nonattinment area for volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and nitrogen oxides (NOx) for the year 2009. We announced receipt of the plan on EPA's website on February 14, 2008, and requested public comment by March 17, 2008. We did not receive any comments on the budgets and plan during that comment period. CARB formally adopted the plan without amendment on February 28, 2008, and submitted the final version to EPA on March 24, 2008.

This letter transmits our decision that the motor vehicle emissions budgets contained in the *Imperial County 8-hour Ozone Early Progress Plan* are adequate for transportation conformity decisions. The plan identifies regional motor vehicle emission budgets in the table below:

| Motor Vehicle Emissions Budgets | | |
|----------------------------------|---|--------------------|
| Budget Year | VOC¹ (tons per day) | NOx (tons per day) |
| 2009 | 7 | 17 |
| ¹ The plan uses a con | mparable State term, reactive organic g | gases (ROG). |

We have detailed our adequacy findings in the enclosure. A copy of this letter and its enclosures will soon be posted on the Internet at

http://www.epa.gov/otaq/stateresources/transconf/adequacy.htm. We will also announce the adequacy findings in the <u>Federal Register</u>. The findings will become effective 15 days after the <u>Federal Register</u> announcement.

If you have any questions regarding these adequacy findings, please contact Amy Zimpfer at (415) 947-4146 or Adrienne Priselac at (415) 972-3285.

Sincerely,

Deborah Jordan

Director, Air Division

Enclosure

cc:

Hasan Ikhrata, SCAG Jonathan Nadler, SCAG Jean Mazur, FHWA